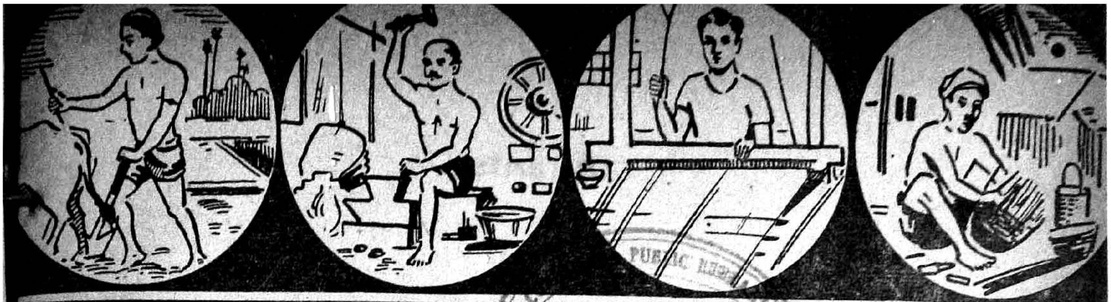

ADULT EDUCATION REVIEW

Hon. Editor. Sri. G. Harisarvottama Rau. M.A.

VOL. V] JULY [No. 9

All activities in the Welfare State Will succeed Better if the State declares War against Illiteracy!

784 / 3-

As a theory it is no doubt correct to say that persons who do not know to read and write are not necessarily uneducated: there are many wise men and women among illiterates, who have learnt much from the book of life.

As arguments against literacy, the foregoing statements are ridiculous. Science has speeded up the processes of life so much so that those who cannot educate themselves cannot win the battle of life.

The enormity of the evils in life can be realised only by those who can read accounts of the cases themselves where it has led to dire consequences. Let the Madras State declare a war against illiteracy, all the nation building activities will succeed better and usher in a new Era of Peace and Plenty.

SIAEA

EACH ONE TEACH ONE

PUBLISHED BY T.J.R.GOPAL

E SOUTH INDIAN ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, MADRA

CONTENTS.

		Page
1. EDITORIAL:		
Students' Camps	...	139
Estate Workers' Welfare	...	140
2. Students' Camps	...	141
3. Foreign Originals for Translations	...	142
4. Special Memorandum	...	143
5. News and Notes	...	147

SOUTH INDIAN ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

FILM DIVISION.

Under the auspices of the Film Division of the Association, Sri T. R. Raghavan, District Organiser, Mathurai was able to organise as an experimental measure a film show in english *viz.* "The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima" at City Cenema, Mathurai for three days on 15th, 16th and 17th July 1954. The response was encouraging. Sri T. J. R. Gopal, Organising Secretary of the Association was present on the occasion of the last day. A detailed report of the show with the statement of accounts will be published in the next issue.

ORGANISING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO GANDHIGRAM.

Mr. T. J. R. Gopal, Organising Secretary of our Association at the invitation of Rev. R. R. Keithahn of Gandhi Nidhi conducted a training at Gandhigram, Mathurai District for Bhoodan workers and Congress constructive workers in Adult Education Methods. A detailed report of the same will be published later.

ADULT EDUCATION REVIEW

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

The South Indian Adult Education Association, Madras.

(All Correspondence should be addressed to the Organising Secretary.)

Vol. V | JULY, 1954 | No. 9

EDITORIAL

Students' Camps

It was in our issue of May last *i.e.*, two months ago that we made an appeal that the Government of India should seriously set about organising youth all over the country so that the energies of the best part of our man power may be utilised for the advancement of the Country.

We are pleased to find that the correspondent of the "*Hindu*" from Kurnool has actually broadcast a scheme that the Government of India has actually promulgated. Colleges and schools have all been included in the scope of the scheme. Not only that, the committee on youth camps and labour service by students is anxious, we are told, that these youth camps should not form the privileged activity of school or College students. Youths, who have left schools or Colleges or have not-been to School at all should also participate in large numbers in this programme of work. This is a very legitimate expectation. If the unemployed middle class youth in the Country should be drawn to this programme it would have the most healthy effect on one of our acutest problems. The Government does not issue certificates for work done under the scheme. However, it is left to the local authorities, if they deem it fit, to award certificates of merit to individual campers for any outstanding act that they might have done. We feel that this remote type of recognition will not be able to enthuse youngmen. What young-men want is preferment in latter life. If they are to put in hard labour, even for three weeks, to which they have never heretofore bent themselves, the incentive to it must be strengthened much more. As a matter of fact, the demand has been made, at some of the students' camps hitherto run, that certificates of at least attendance at camps may be issued so that young men may point to their service as qualifying them to preferment. We do believe that, from the practical point of view, it is best that the Government does include the issue of certificates as an integral part of the scheme and make it clear also that these certificates should be considered additional qualification for entry into Government service.

• The minimum for a camp is fixed at 50 and the upper limit is set down as 300. If the scheme has to work Country-wide and efficiently the

lower limit should not go beyond 30 and the upper limit 50.

Whatever improvements may be required in the scheme it requires to be strongly supported by all concerned.

The Government expect "purposeful activity" should be the aim in this scheme. A project entailing manual labour should be undertaken. We do hope that the Government do not desire to preclude Social Education from the purview of this scheme. The most extensive purposeful activity that the present generation of our young men are competent to carry out is Social Education. There appears to be a sly battle of wits between the Government and the youth of the Country. The third Youth Leadership Training Camp organised by the Ministry of Education at Chambatia, Almora in June 1954 emphasised that service to the Community should be construed in a much wider sense than mere Physical labour and it recommended that students should be encouraged to take up work projects like swimming pools, open air theatres, stadia, kavi sammelanam, dramatic productions, exhibitions and hospital work. Full fledged Social Education now includes all these activities in addition to projects of physical labour. It is best that neither the Government nor youth should consider departures from well-established lines of action and be baffled by cross-current action. Young men of today should be required to work up the Social Education scheme and all the encouragement given.

We hope the Government of India have no other intention in whatever language they may be clothing their thought when they promulgate each new scheme for youth. Social Education profits the youth as much as it helps to solve one of the acutest problems of the world and to build up the Country's man-power. Let no novelties attract us into futile trial over and over again with no definite prospect appearing before our eyes clearly.

For the benefit of our readers we publish elsewhere the full text of the Communication sent by the correspondent of the "*Hindu*"

Estate Workers' Welfare

Certain amendments to rules under the Plantation Labour Act of 1951, appear to have come up for consideration. The fifth session of the Industrial Committee was held in Calcutta earlier this year under the Chairmanship of Sri V.V. Giri. That session decided that the draft rules under the Act should be circulated to States and representatives of employers and employees and should be later on considered and finalised by the Tripartite Committee. By the time these lines are in print the Sixth Session would have met in Ootacamund and finalised the rules. The rules provide for many things in detail. Educational facilities are also mentioned. Every employer should provide for the recreational facilities for the workers and Educational facilities for children of workers. The Education of the worker himself does not appear to have attracted the framers of these rules. We are surprised how this issue escapes attention at every turn. Elaborate arrangements are being made under the rules for garden hospitals and group hospitals to be

Students'. Camps

Centre to Finance Scheme

Kurnool, July 11.—The principals of colleges and heads of schools and voluntary organisations in the Andhra State have been circularised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, urging on them the necessity and utility of organising youth camps and labour service squads by students and they have called upon the principals of various colleges to submit programmes for such camps to be organised, with estimates of probable expenditure for the same.

The Government of India propose to finance these youth camps at the rate of Rupees two per head per day for those participating in such camps, besides meeting their transport charges at Third Class Railway fare or actual bus charge incurred to and fro.

The maximum capacity of a camp is fixed at 300 and the minimum at 50 campers. Where the number of campers exceeds the upper limit of 300, they should be split into two or more smaller units.

The normal duration of such a camp is fixed at four weeks and in exceptional cases it might be reduced to three weeks. The projects undertaken by the campers should of such kind as could be completed within four weeks of active manual labour and the projects should be "purposeful."

Since the nature of work of boys' and girls' camps will be different, it is desired that mixed camps should be substituted by two separate camps—one for boys and the other for girls.

It is further stipulated that all the programmes should be conducted under the supervision of some competent authority. The provision of wholesome food to the campers should be the major concern of the organisers of these camps. The Government of India are prepared to pay Rs. one and annas eight per head per day for this purpose.

The committee on youth camps and labour service by students is also anxious that these youth camps should not form "the privileged activity of school or college students." Youths, who have left school or colleges, or have not been to schools at all, should also participate in large numbers in this programme of work. They could either join groups of students from schools or colleges in their project works or organise independent camps through approved voluntary organisations.

As far as the actual work in these camps was concerned, it is felt all work should be done in a spirit of love for labour and should need no special recognition. However, it is left to the local authorities, if they deem it fit, to award certificates of merit to individual campers for any outstanding act that they might have done.

Principals of colleges and heads of schools and of voluntary organisations have been asked to submit their schemes and programmes for holding these camps through their universities or State Governments before July 31 this year.

Last year, grants were provided for these students' camps by the Centre from their allotments to local development works. But, this year the grants to these youth camps have been made separately by the Ministry of Education.

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established by the employers by December 31st 1955. Social Education that would prevent people from disease at the Employer giving his Employee half an hour's rest and teaching everyday has to wait for how long a time more, we are not able to guess. It will probably be in the interests of all concerned if every Committee that a Government appoints for Welfare purposes included an Educational Adviser.

Foreign Originals for Translation

BY L. C. RICHARD.

There is no equivalent in Tamil or perhaps in any Dravidian language to the English classic "Alice in Wonderland" for children or "Tom Jones" for adults or "The Three Musketers", in French or "Uncle Tom's Cabin" from America. In the absence of such gripping books for the new literates in our country and in the general dearth of talent for producing such literature indigenously, we look in the direction of translations for filling the gap. A translation may not be as good as the original but may result just as well in inspiring a work of genius in the local language. The adventures of "The Three Musketers" if brought to the notice of the new literate, may not only excite his imagination and gratify his spirit of adventure but may perhaps inspire a writer with talent to extol the exploits of a local Jambulingam into a National saga of Robin Hood. The literature of our country needs to be thus enriched with epic tales of Grimm and Peter Pan for children and Don Juan and Robinhood for adults. The duty of our graduates in English is made clear. Surely in the course of their sojourn in any University College, they would have learned to care for a novel or a play or an essay in a way which would never let them forget it in after-life. I call to mind Shakespeare's "Mid Summer Night's Dream" or Keat's "Ode to a Nightingale" or Dequincey on "Opium eaters" or the short stories of O'Henry or the "Pickwick Papers" of Dickens. Just how much a translation of any one of these would mean to new literates cannot be measured. They would certainly open a window into the eternal pleasures of the mind. Surely any student who completes his University course can do this much of national service to his people; or he might have been influenced by the beauty of a life—its sacrifice, its patience, its nobility and he could translate and present it to serve as a spiritual example for his countrymen. Such lives abound in the long history of the world. Mrs. Pankjuest who won votes for women, Mrs. Fry who pioneered prison reforms, Miss Nightingale who nursed and Mrs. Blackwell who doctored, the first of their kind.

Copyright restrictions should have to be relaxed all along the line, if translation of foreign classics have to be undertaken as part of the National movement for adult education. Our young republic cannot hope to assimilate the universal wealth in books in existing copyright laws are not beaten down. Undoubtedly an author has a patent right to the creations of his mind. If royalty has to be paid to him, copyright of deserving books should have to be paid for from the national coffers in order that the present generation may enjoy all that wealth of knowledge. No publisher can by himself expect to shoulder the heavy cost of buying copyright for foreign originals to be translated nor can he wait for 28 years after an American author dies or 50 years after an English author to translate the best thoughts of a modern American or Englishman. No country in the world is so indifferent to copyright as Russia. More books are translated from the Russian into Indian languages than perhaps any other in the world and that is why there is nothing about soviet communism that we do not know.

If copyright is an obstacle to the translation of foreign originals customs is a barrier. It is difficult to bring across educational and cultural materials over frontiers without interminable questioning and excessive duty. But pirated editions and garbled versions have to be avoided. Some time ago fourteen countries of the world under the auspices of the U. N. O. agreed to a pact to allow the free flow of such material between countries without customs restriction in order to push forward their schemes of fundamental and adult education. We do not know if India is a signatory but it is worthwhile to join in. UNO coupons for exchange of good books between countries has begun a good tradition. Recenty the Masulipatnam public library received a free gift of hundred best American books We are thankful for the collection but we wonder when they will get translated into Telugu. Perhaps never, unless the enterprise is started on the national level.

Subsidy for translation of foreign originals including the compensation for authors

Special Memorandum

Presented to the Chief and the Education Ministers to the Government of Madras by the South Indian Adult Education Association.

On 30th June 1954 and 12th July 1954.

Adult Education :—A Mass Movement. The Adult Education movement, more especially the purposeful Literacy side of it, is a movement for the mass of the people, about 85 per cent of them, in our land. Crores of people have to grow literate in a very short period if the Adult voter has to play his part well and get his food, requirements and shelter in a decent way. He must be capable of self-education. This cannot be achieved by mere departmental or even Governmental agency. Popular enthusiasm has to be aroused and every educated man and woman in the Country should be influenced to educate others. This requires non-official work on a large scale and inter-depatmental Co-operation of a very real character, adult education being considered the business of every department of Government.

Therefore, two primary lines of action become necessary.

First:—Non-official organisations working in the field of Adult Education should be substantially assisted by the Government, in their day to day work for running their endeavour at State, district and local levels—both on the propaganda and practical sides. The South Indian Adult Education Association requests the fullest encouragement. The Association has its programme of organising and conducting Regional Seminars, Conferences, Public Meetings and Adult Education Weeks etc for the Promotion of Adult Education. We request that a grant of Rs 3,000 per annum be made for the purpose of propaganda and Rs. 3,000 may be made to help to organise different branches of activities by our office, such as organising Training camps for Social Education workers, Secondary Education for Workmen and to organise a Community Centre in Madras with a publishing section for the production of literature for neo-literates.

We have organised the South Indian Adult Education Co-operative Publishing Society Ltd., which has now proposed to bring out as early as possible 50 booklets in Telugu and 50 in Tamil as also 50 in Malayalam as follow up literature for the neo-literates. In the past the Madras Government gave us a subsidy of Rs. 1,050 to publish 10 booklets in Telugu and 9 in Tamil, secured by the Government through a competition scheme. Similar help may be rendered to our Publishing Society for the 150 booklets we propose to publish.

We have already developed a Community Centre at Swatantranagar, Madras, where we are trying to cultivate Co-operative life amongst a homogeneous population. We have organised a Co-operative House Site Society for the residents of the locality and purchased 18 grounds of land from the Corporation of Madras and are making arrangements for the distribution oi the land among the members of the Society. It is proposed to house the Community Centre in organising a Model craft school for children and adults, a Reading Room and a Library, a Health Centre, Social Education Training Centre, Public and Panchayat Hall, a theatre for 16 M.M. films to exhibit films to Adult Population and Printing Press for the Production of Adult Education follow up books and journals. We have estimated that we have to spend about Rs. 25,000 towards its building and other materials as non-recurring and a sum of Rs. 6,000 per annum for recurring expenditure to the centre and we request

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therefore seems to me a National responsibility that could find a place in the Five Year Plan. Or at least private endowments could be set up for the specific purpose of translating one classic or other from a foreign original every year. In this way alone can we hope to fill up a gap which threatens to render sterile the thought of the nation. A list of useful books for translation from foreign originals could be prepared, chiefly from the English language for the present and the series published on a non-profit basis.

the Government may be pleased to make a half grant for the same.

Second:—The Governmental side of the Adult Education business should be so organised as to make all the development department of Government, the local bodies and non-official organisations feel they are real sharers in the endeavour. To this end, the Adult Education movement should be handled by a Board on which all these are as well represented as the Education Department with an Executive Officer appointed by the Government to carry out the programme and policy laid down by the Board.

As the Premier non-official organisation in South India we request that we may be given adequate representation on the Board that may be constituted as also on other bodies, that are or may be constituted for the furtherance of the cause including the Central Authority under the Madras Public Libraries Act.

Adult Education Teachers:—Though the original intention of the Government of Madras was not to restrict the training of Adult Education Teachers to elementary school masters or to the profession, as the movement has to be a mass movement measures should be taken to widen the scope and throw it open to all classes of people. This can be done on a proper scale when the grant-in-aid system is liberally administered. There are signs that the department has just recognised that aided managements should be helped to run training institutions. The first of this type has not yet started as the intentions of the department have not had time to be broadcast and the department itself is not accustomed to broadcast such matters.

Their Training:—Because of the departmental management even ten days pass out of forty days of training before the last admissions are made. The work at the Training institutions necessarily suffers inefficiency. The Department itself has suggested, on other grounds which may not be discussed here, that the period of training for Adult Education purpose may be shortened to thirty days. If aided institutions are allowed to spring up and thus the number of those to be trained is widened, it may be necessary in the interest of quickness, to reduce the period of training to one month, even lesser. In that case refresher course should be provided to better equip the general run of the Elementary School teacher, to chop up his informational level and to raise his standard of attainment to cope with the demands of adult education. We may also note that this is not the only type of training necessary. A special type of training is absolutely necessary to man our community centres, covering a period of six months on the model that is adopted in Cochin-Travancore, Mysore and other States today.

Further as the movement grows in volume and takes the mass trend short training courses for the village folk who have not known a school about the fifth standard as also for students whose voluntary work has to play a very substantial part in adult education are always necessary. Those also should receive encouragement.

Project Schemes :—We are happy to note that with the UNESCO and Ford Foundation assistance project schemes are coming into exhistence. Our particular request in this affair is that the Education Ministry may take sufficient interest and induce the authorities in charge of those schemes to give us and the adult education cause a proper place in carrying out those schemes for, we are convinced, without a vigorous drive for Adult Education, the other aspects of the scheme must necessarily be handicapped to a larger or smaller extent.

Grant-in-aid:—On the whole there is no reason why the Grant-in-aid system should not be widely employed in the field of Adult Education.

The Adult Education movement has to run on as many parallel lines as schools, colleges, University and special education for children. In fact, it has to run more widely than child education. We instance, our Workers Night High School at Perambur. Developing higher and higher standards in Adult Education may not be resisted very much longer. The State can never hope to meet all the demands except through the grant-in-aid methods.

Railways, Jails etc :—Railways, Jails, industrial concerns and the like contains hords of literatures. The Adult's Education in such concerns has also to be systematised. The Railways and Jails have attempted work. But for want of trained personal and technical advice much headway has

not been made. In the Jails children's education has been imparted to Adults with the Educational department estensibly in charge of Adult Education also. So, even enthusiastic jail Superintendents find themselves handicapped. Industrial concerns in the urban area and Planters, which are come under the Factories Act and controlled by the Labour Commissioner should be taken in the first instance and introduce indirect compulsion in amending the Factories Act by making provision to impart Literacy and Recreational education to the workers by alloting one or half an hour for this purpose. The Government and Local Bodies may set an example to others to follow suit.

Equipment :—Equipment supplied to the adult education institutions has been scanty. Even purposeful literacy has not chance of success until supply of lights, books, charts, daily and other journals as also of equipment for the Social atmosphere which is vital to the development of much centres is done on a planned basis. Though it is true that some small attempts has been made to supply certain of the items mentioned it has all been sporadic. We would request that the question is thoroughly examined and speedy arrangements made in this behalf as otherwise the whole attempt at purposeful literacy may have to be pronounced a failure.

Mobile Units :—The part that the mobile unit plays in propaganda is not small. When associated with proper non-official workers it has a very much greater opportunity. Its greatest advantage is in its capacity to gather crowds. So every equipment that is necessary to make it useful as a great "Caller" should be provided. The present mobile units for Adult Education in the Madras State are very defective in this matter. These defects must immediately be remedied. Mobile Units should be dust proof to save not only the health of the people travelling in them but also keep the machinery from being damaged too soon by fine dust. That is one of the glaring defects in the present Madras Mobile Units. This has to be remedied. The films and records provided should not be chosen at random. Special film reels and gramophone records should be prepared for adult education to suit our conditions. General type of films must certainly be there. But not exclusively. No thought has so far been bestowed on preparation of appropriate films. Not even Adult Education propaganda songs have been gramophoned. Fresh supplies of films and records should be made from time to time and they must all be kept. The present vans are equiped with microphone, Radio and Sound film projector. The microphone and the Radio do not seem to be in use. We reliably hear that in certain of the units the microphone has not been available for years. The managements of these vans should be much improved. Sometimes ago a special officer was appointed to examine issues relating to the vans. We do hope his report will be made available to our Association. The van employed today are too heavy and unfit to move out of good even roads. They are therefore, not fit to cover more than twenty per cent at best of our villages. Lighter vehicles must be found. It is much better to have mobile units of a higher type at one each for two districts. The present staff arrangements are very unsatisfactory. For three vans we have only three sets of workers. Out of the three employed—driver, operator and the officer-if any should take leave the business stops or become ineffective. Because the staff is expected to be on duty the whole month, doing work in the night, much room is left for grumbling and malingering and on the average handy a third of the work that may well be done is extracted. It is best to employ extra sets of workers and run the units on all days of the month and to the fullest extent everyday. The red-tapism under which the officer-in-charge of the van works has also to be greatly relaxed if he has to render efficient service. His discipline and control over the other staff of unit should be fairly full. To give him equipment for efficient control he may get training in operation work and motor driving, say, for six months. It also appears useful to pool mobile unit services now run by various departments and intensify the work of spreading knowledge of all types to the adult in the mass.

It may be helpful if non-official organisations, like the South Indian Adult Education Association, which has started a Film Divisions and such non-official organisations are assisted to run audio-visual programme on their own to stimulate effort all along the line.

Concentration effort:—Our experience has clearly shown that the opening of the Adult Literacy classes all over the State without careful planning is not likely to yield results commensurate with the amount of the money and energy spent on it. It is therefore, necessary to plan economically for effective supervision and efficient guidance and thus make the limited resources go the longest way and at the same time reduce all other administrative difficulties to the minimum. Thus considered, it would appear advisable to organise and conduct Adult Education Centre in carefully selected and compact areas or groups of villages—in conjunction with the Community Project and National Extension Service department where primary Education has already been provided and where there is previous back-ground of social uplift work and where the local people have expressed or shown directly interested in these campaigns. The area should, however, be such as can be entrusted for the supervision purposes to one officer and in which there would be the possibility of turning out a specified number of Adult literate with few months or a year with minimum cost.

Such areas may be spread all over the State in such a way that no part of it is neglected. This concentration of effort in selected areas should be given to a particular district or to a particular community or vocation but only for administrative conveniences and getting maximum return. The plan should be to have in a specified time at least on such area of concentrated effort in each district. The literacy campaign in the campact area is not to be continued *adinfinitum* but only till such time as the turn over of the literates is commensurate with the expenditure and energy involved. As soon as this point of saturation is reached, the area should cease to be a compact area for the purpose of concentrated effort. Further education of Adults should however, continue through follow-up activities such as library development, continuation classes and other plans with the help of local leaders.

Though in view of limited resources, we recommend that in general the concentration effort should be made in compact or specified area, fairly spread over the entire State, and not to neglect any particular part, it is recognised at the same time that it would be unfair and inadvisable to neglect individual villages, which are contiguous, where local enthusiasm and initiative is so great as to warrant the starting of intensive work in Social Education including literacy. It is but necessary to give all possible encouragement in such cases. No effort on concentration which precluded an opportunity to other areas to develop can be justifiable. On the other hand, the success of the concentrated effort in selected areas may prove an incentive to scattered areas to demand the opening of such centres. The contiguous villages in a compact area should be encouraged to show spirit of healthy competition and other villages should also catch the contagion of their enthusiasm. Thus the effort for eradication of illiteracy should be intensive as well as extensive with due emphasis on intensive work in compact areas. The proportion between the two may depend upon a local condition.

Age Group:—Though complete eradication of illiteracy means leaving no person, whatever be his age, illiterate; it is necessary for evident reason to concentrate for the present on the age between 13 to 40. Those above 40 need not, however, be debarred from attending the classes, if they choose to do so. Those below 13 should not be allowed to attend the adult classes unless in the area concerned, primary education has not made headway. Similarly, when the number of adults in age group of 13 to 20 is sufficient to form a class it may be advisable to do so for psychological reasons.

Indirect Compulsion:—The foundation has been laid over a wide area and fairly strong. The superstructure to be raised by the same co-operation and co-ordination between the official and non-official agencies and individuals, which has insured the progress so far achieved. The State alone

cannot bear all responsibility, although the State recognition and support could supply the necessary steadiness and orderliness to the non-official efforts. The Adult Education movement must continue to be, what is has been, essentially a non-official movement. It would be most inappropriate to entrust the organisation, management and inspection of adult literacy schools to the official agency employed in elementary education. Adult Education signified as altogether different psychology. And so the whole movement should be entrusted to a net work of committees, to which the Government have already agreed on principle and those committees must be made responsible for the progress of Adult Education in all its stages, the State excercising supervisory control over expenditure alone. It is no doubt that the objective of the adult education movement in our State be realised before long, since political circumstances are congineal and omens are good. Time is not far off when the State will have to insure the progress of Adult Education as a movement through the methods of compulsion. The mass mind is ripe enough even now to be able to appreciate the principle of compulsion. Inherently sound and beneficial reforms call for compulsion as tardy methods would render them ineffective. Prohibition has been accepted by the mass mind as a proper method to do away with the drink evil. We hope there will be no opposition to the State taking steps to mobilise the educated to tackle adult illiteracy, and there will be no grudging on the part of the educated who can spare time for the sacred work. Compulsion in the matter of Adult Education should necessarily be all embracing. Illiterate adults should be made to attend schools started for their benefit and non-attendance made punishable. It would be in the fitness of things if the Government examine the prospects and issue a communique formulating a long term policy.

NEWS & NOTES.

Mysore Adult Education Council

Mr. A. Krishnamurthy Rao, Municipal Councillor, and the Vice-President, South Indian Adult Education Association, has been appointed General Secretary of the Mysore State Adult Education Council, in place of Mr. N. Bhadriah who resigned from the Secretaryship of the Council.

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Indians to Study Danish Rural System

A team of Indian educationists, consisting of Principals and prominent teachers of rural, basic and social education institutions, as well as representatives of certain State Governments including West Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, and Saurashtra left for Denmark by air on June 2, for three and a half months stay in Denmark.

The programme of the team would include a study of the Danish social and educational systems with the object of incorporating relevant items into India's national programmes. A reasonable portion of time at the disposal of the team would be devoted specially to the study of the problems of secondary and adult education in rural areas. The programme of Danish folk schools, ensures that farmers and others who receive their education at these schools, are able to find satisfactory employment in their own areas.

This visit has been sponsored by the Ministry of Education in co-operation with Ford Foundation. The delegation is led by Mr. M. K. Bhat, Director of Lok Bharat Village University. Prominent among the members visiting Denmark are, Shri T. Madiah Gowda, Vice-President of the Indian Adult Education Association and President, Adult Education Council, Mysore; Shri N. R. Roy, member of the Executive Committee of the Indian Adult Education Association, and Chief Inspector, Social Education, West Bengal, Shri V.B. Karnik, Associate Secretary of the Indian Adult Education Association and Secretary of the Regional Social Education Committee Maha-

7 - DEC 1955

rashtra, Poona; and Shri Barkat Ali Firaq, Editor, Talim-O-Taraqqi, Jamia, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Indian Adult Education Association.

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Adult Education Workers' Conference at Calcutta

A conference of the officials of the Education Directorate, adult education experts and workers was held at Students Hall, College Square, Calcutta, sometime in the middle of May.

The Conference was held under the auspices of the West Bengal Adult Education Association. Dr. P. Roy, Director of Public Instruction, West Bengal, presided over the morning session and Sri A. K. Mitra, Joint Development Commissioner, over the after-noon session of the conference.

Dr. P. Roy in his speech said that the workers engaged in fighting illiteracy should do so in a missionary spirit, in a spirit of service to the community. He pleaded that honesty, sincerity and loyalty to the cause of education were most needed today.

In the afternoon session Sri A. K. Mitra, who presided, said that if closer co-operation between the Government's Social Education Department and different non-official organisations could be established, social education among the masses would spread more rapidly than at present.

Sri Nikhil Ranjan Roy, Chief Inspector, Social Education, West Bengal, said that the State Government had spent Rs. 9 lakh 50 thousand for social education last year and they had allotted Rs. 11 lakhs for the current financial year.

Srimati Usha Banerji, Srimati Maya Sarkar, Sri Rabindra Nath Sen Gupta, Sri Anadi Nath Sinha, Srimati Latika Mukherji, Sri Nani Dutta, Sri Lalit Mukherji and Srimati Tarulata Das Gupta also participated in the discussion.

Shimoga District Adult Education Committee

The annual conference of the Taluk Organisers of the Shimoga District Adult Education Committee was held recently at the office of the committee. Mr. C. V. Rajagopal, Divisional Officer of the Committee, presided.

Addressing the gathering, the President emphasised the part to be played by the various Organisers. The Organising Secretary, Shri Nagappa explained the object of convening the Conference. The Conference was addressed by Deputy Commissioner, and Divisional Officer. Various Organisers read their progress reports for the year.

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Indian Delegation to Toronto Conference

The Seventh International Conference of Social Work was held in Toronto, Canada, from June 26 to July 2, 1954. The main theme of the Conference was "Promoting Social Welfare through self-help and co-operative Action".

A delegation of about 40 members comprising of government officials and social workers left India to attend this Conference Prominent among them are Shri Din Daya Gupta, Minister for Social Services, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shankar Deo, Deputy Minister Social Services, Hyderabad: Dr. A. N. Sinha, Finance Minister, Bihar; Shri S. K. Dey, Development Commissioner, West Bengal, Mrs. Vimlabai Deshmukh, Vice-President, All India Food Council; Mrs. Jaishri Raijee, M. P. Bombay; Shri Chirayah, Welfare Officer, Tisco, Jamshedpur, Dr. P. Vakharia, Dean, Baroda School of Social Work; and Shri S. C. Dutta, Associate Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association, Delhi.

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